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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## New Dog Park Opens At Chandon Park in Herndon

There were members of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, the Fairfax County Park Authority, the Herndon Town Council and Herndon Dogs, Inc., all gathered despite the bitter weather to hold "leash cutting" ceremonies at Chandon Park in Herndon this past Saturday. Many of the canines, who will benefit from the opening of the fifth off-leash dog exercise area in Fairfax County, were also in attendance. There was consensus among attendees that the temperature was dropping and that the dog park was truly needed.

The dog park is a cooperative effort between county government, the local municipality and an all volunteer dog advocacy group. Chandon Park, a 7.9-acre neighborhood park with active recreation amenities, is owned by the Town of Herndon, but facilities are developed and maintained by the Park Authority. Chandon Park was first established in 1972.

The off-leash exercise area is approximately 30,000 square feet and can accommodate 42 dogs at one time. There are separate areas for small dogs and large dogs. Entrances to the park are double-gated to ensure that dogs don't get loose while owners take leashes on or off. Dog parks are the only places in Fairfax County parks where dogs may run or exercise without a leash.

The dog park was funded in part by Herndon Dog, Inc., which raised over \$7,000 in order to participate in the Mastenbrook Matching grant program. Total costs for developing the park were just over \$14,000. The Town of Herndon participated in the expansion of the adjacent parking lot, which cost approximately \$36,000.

For more information about this opening, contact the Public Information Office at 703-324-8662. For more information about Herndon Dogs, Inc., send an e-mail to [boardmembers@herndon dogs.org](mailto:boardmembers@herndon dogs.org).

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